Mr Robert McMahon
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Dear

You really gave me a challenging problem with the item you found on Long Island with your metal detector, I studied it with our curator, Tom Serfass.

The piece seems to be copper or bronze from its specific gravity of about 9. It could be copper-nickel. The hole is more or less square and was put in after the piece was struck as it has any obvious projection around the hole only on one side. The hole was punched in by a square nail or a square punch. The punching could have caused the bend as it was oreginally flat. The only image I perceive is the sunburst and what might be lettering facing inward. One is totally eaten away. The edge has crude and irregular vertical and slanting lines on some of it.

The sunburst is such a size and shape was finally located on the 1 centavo of Peru which was was minted beginning in 1867 in copper-nickel, in 1875 in bronze and continued until 1949. There are many dates and many varieties in between. They are on thick and thin flans. The diameter of the 1 centavo is the same as your piece. The thickness is the same as the thick flan pieces I compared it with. It is possible that the letters ERUA facing inward are on your piece and this would be part of PERUANA. All of the Peru pieces I know about have a plain edge. The edge on your piece could have been rolled on experimentally on a thin flan after striking. Perhaps it was a Peruvian pattern token, medal or button, but it looks like a coin to me.

It has no United States characteristics such as the Nova Constillatio you had hoped for.

Please be nice enough to inform me the variety of the Connecticut cent you found or if you still have it could you send a picture.